

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NASA-01 SCI-03 L-02 AID-10 SP-02

INR-10 CIAE-00 IGA-01 DRC-01 RSC-01 /050 W

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R 010815Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6388

S E C R E T TANANARIVE 0942

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TSPA, EAID, MA, US

SUBJECT: NASA SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

REF: STATE 140769

1. LETTER TO GENERAL ANDRIAMAHAZO ALREADY SENT PRIOR RECEIPT REFTEL. POUCHING COPIES AF/E AND TRUSZYNSKI, NASA.
2. WHEN I OFFERED CERTAIN SURPLUS EQUIPMENT TO ANDRIAMAHAZO ON JUNE 5 (TANANARIVE 769), I DID NOT SPECIFICALLY INCLUDE IT AS PART OF NEGOTIATING PACKAGE.
3. IN ANY CASE, I CONSIDER DECISION TO GO AHEAD WITH LETTER ON EQUIPMENT CORRECT BOTH BECAUSE OF RELEVANCE TO OUR INTERESTS IN POLITICAL STRUGGLE (TANANARIVE 927) AND ALSO BECAUSE OF CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE ADVERSE GOMR REACTION IF WE SPECIFICALLY TIE EVERYTHING ON QUID PRO QUO BASIS TO NASA STATION AGREEMENT.
4. HEAD OF GOVT GENERAL RAMANANTSOA HAS SEVERAL TIMES SINCE I ARRIVED IN MADAGASCAR SPOKEN OF HIS GOVERNMENT'S DESIRE FOR "DISINTERESTED AID WITHOUT STRINGS." WE HAVE LEARNED THAT OUR TYING OF RAILROAD LOAN TO NASA STATION AGREEMENT HAS GRADUALLY BECOME KNOWN, FOR EXAMPLE, BY DIRECTOR OF PLAN AND BY FRENCH COMPANY AWAITING REIMBURSEMENT OF UNPAID INSTALLMENTS FOR PAST WORK ON RAILWAY. EMBASSY ECONOMIC OFFICER HAS SUGGESTED

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THAT, TO AVOID BOOMERANG, WE SHOULD CONSIDER GOING AHEAD WITH

RAILROAD LOAN. I HOWEVER THINK THAT OUR BASIC DECISION TO
LINK RAILROAD LOAN TO NASA STATION WAS CORRECT, PARTICULARLY
IN VIEW OF HISTORY OF APPROVAL OF THAT LOAN, AND THAT WE SHOULD
NOT BACKTRACK ON IT. I THINK ALSO THAT SURPLUS TELECOMMUNICATIONS
EQUIPMENT SHOULD OF COURSE ALSO CONTINUE TO BE PART OF NE-
GOTIATING PACKAGE, BUT CONSIDER IT WISER NOT TO HAVE LINKED
OFFER OF OTHER NASA SURPLUS EQUIPMENT. STATION AFTER ALL
CONTINUES DE FACTO, AS ANDRIAMAHAZO HAS POINTED OUT, AND THIS
SURPLUS EQUIPMENT -- OF LIMITED ACTUAL VALUE -- REPRESENTS
GESTURE TO OUR FRIENDS IN RETURN FOR THAT FACT.
MENDENHALL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Draft Date: 01 JUL 1974
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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